

REMARKS

Applicants received two versions of the Office Action dated March 24, 2004. One version of the Office Action was received on March 29, 2004 and the other version of the Office Action was received on April 27, 2004. Both versions of the Office Action included handwritten changes to the text. However, the handwritten changes differ between the two versions. Applicants will respond to the later version of the Office Action which was received on April 27, 2004 and will refer to the earlier version of the Office Action to the extent it provides clarifications or handwritten changes which do not appear on the April 27, 2004 version.

Applicants have reviewed the Office Action. Although applicants do not agree with the arguments made in the Office Action, applicants have decided to cancel claims 1-7 and claims 15-123 in order to expedite issuance of allowed claims 8-14. The cancellation of the claims should not be construed as any agreement with the Examiner's arguments nor used against the applicants in the future. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claims in other applications.

In addition, applicants have amended the Abstract as suggested in the Office Action.

Conclusion

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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